service for construction and management of Warehouses in the country and abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Warehousing Corporation of India has entered into agreements with the foreign countries in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA) : (a) and (b) The Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) provides consultancy services and execution of work for construction of warehouses in the country. The CWC has so far provided consultancy to the following institutions for construction of warehouses/godowns :–

(i) For construction of godowns on behalf of Food & Civil Supplies, Delhi Government at Ghazipur during 1988-89.

(ii) Construction of Super Bazar at Palam Gaon under the Ministry of Food & Civil Supplies.

(iii) Construction of godowns at various places in the State of Uttaranchal under the Government of U.P. and Government of Uttaranchal.

Recently, the CWC has offered its services for supervision and consultancy for construction of godowns in Rural areas under Gramin Bhandaran Yojana under the subsidiary scheme of Central Government to be financed by commercial/NABARD Bank.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Policy for accepting foreign food aid

3609. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a need for clear policy on accepting foreign food aid;

(b) whether there is recent rejection of a large shipment of food from

United States which contained genetically modified maize and soya products;

(c) if so, whether Government need food aid from foreign countries when we are surplus in food;

(d) if so, whether any concrete policy for accepting food has been formulated; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA) : (a) to (e) Proposals in respect of accepting food aid (wheat & rice) are considered, on case to case basis, from time to time depending on the production, demand and availability of foodgrains in the country.

The proposal for importing Corn Soya Blend (CSB) containing genetically modified (GM) material under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programme through United States Agency for International Development (USAID) was considered by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) and was not agreed upon in view of the apprehensions expressed by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) regarding feeding the vulnerable population with GM food and in the absence of any certification from US regulatory agency confirming that CSB shipment to India does not contain the banned or obsolete variety of corn event.

There is no proposal, at present, relating to foodgrain aid for the Central Pool, in view of the comfortable stocks position of wheat & rice.

Prices of sugar

†3610. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new formula regarding fixing the prices of sugar has been announced;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.